

FINAL

EXP. 12/31/84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Maier, Peter Augustus, House

and/or common Maier - Pollard House

2. Location

street & number 707 South Sixth Street N/A not for publication

city, town Evansville N/A vicinity of ~~congressional district~~

state Indiana code 018 county Vanderburgh code 163

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Francis William Pollard

street & number 707 South Sixth Street

city, town Evansville N/A vicinity of state Indiana 47713

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of Recorder, Vanderburgh County Courthouse

street & number Civic Center

city, town Evansville state Indiana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1981 federal state county local

7. Description.

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Peter Augustus Maier House, a 2½ story brick Italianate style house, is situated in the center of four shady city lots at the intersection of Sixth and Gum Streets. An excellent example of Italianate style architecture, the Maier house retains its original detailing and decorative features, and appears much as it did at the time of construction.

The house has an "L" plan, with a porch in the alcove on the main, east facade (see photo #1). The one-over-one, double-hung windows have stone sills. In classic Italianate style, window and door openings on the east facade are segmental arches. Windows are decorated with hood molds, shouldered corners, and keystones with incised palmettes.

The cornice consists of brackets mounted on a paneled frieze. The stylized posts of the porch support a simplified version of the same frieze design. The porch roof is flat. In keeping with Italianate style lines, the cross gable roof is low pitched. On the east-west wing, the gable has returns. Roof material is slate.

On the north elevation, the projecting 2½ story bay has a hipped roof towards the rear (see photo #3). The windows on this bay emulate the style of windows on the main facade. Following the mode of Italianate design, the rest of the windows on the north elevation have undecorated relieving arches. These windows are four-over-four double-hung.

The interior of the house contains ten rooms with a central hall plan. In addition, there is an attic, basement, and wine cellar. There are eight cast-iron fireplaces in the home. Interior woodwork consists of oak and ash, and the floors are poplar. There is brass hardware on the doors and windows. Interior shutters on the windows have been removed and are stored in the attic.

The grounds are enclosed on three sides by an original wrought iron fence. A bricked courtyard connects the house to the carriage house on the northwest portion of the lot. The carriage house is a two story, brick, rectangular structure aligned north and south. In keeping with the design of the main house, the carriage house has Italianate detailing. At the north and south ends of the carriage house are large double doors with relieving arches, and a pair of round-headed windows capped with header coursing. Along the east and west elevations, the windows are irregularly placed. These four-over-four, double-hung windows are also capped with header coursing.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1873 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Peter Augustus Maier House derives its significance from its Italianate style architecture and from its association with Peter Augustus Maier, a prominent Evansville attorney and leader in the German community in that city. The house, with its segmental arched windows, decorative window hoods and molding, carved brackets, and interior fireplaces and woodwork, is a classic example of the Italianate style at its prime in Indiana.

Peter Augustus Maier was born in 1834 in Prussia and immigrated with his parents to Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1848. In 1860, Maier moved to Evansville just after he passed the state bar examinations in Ohio. He began to build a successful law practice in Evansville which lasted almost fifty years.

Through his efforts as liaison to the German consulate in Cincinnati, Maier was responsible for bringing a number of German immigrants to Evansville to settle there. By 1864, two-thirds of the city's population spoke German, so Maier started the Evansville Demokrat, a German-language newspaper which kept the German-speaking residents of Evansville informed of political affairs. He sold the publication in 1866 to the Lowenstein brothers, also of Evansville. By 1873, Maier was able to build the elegant house which still stands at the corner of Sixth and Gum.

Maier was also active in Evansville politics. In 1874, and again in 1882, he was appointed city attorney. In 1890, he was elected judge of the Superior Court of Vanderburgh County. He retired to private practice in 1894.

The house has remained in the Maier family since it was built. After Maier's death, his youngest daughter, Frances Maier Pollard, lived in the house with her family. Her son, Francis William Pollard, still resides in the house.

The Peter Augustus Maier house stands almost exactly as it did when constructed. It is significant as one of the premier examples of Italianate style architecture in Evansville, particularly because of its unaltered state. It stands in an area that was cleared by an urban renewal program in the mid-1970s, increasing its significance and visual prominence. Its salvation through being determined eligible, and the attention focused on it as being significant to Evansville's heritage, marked the end to city programs which involved the indiscriminate demolition of large tracts.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Please see continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Evansville South Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	6	4	5	0	4	6	0	4	2	0	2	0	3	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Please see continuation sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Gwendolyn F. Koch

organization Victorian Society of America

date July 6, 1975

street & number 400 S.E. Riverside Drive

telephone

city or town Evansville

state Indiana 47713

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer

date 9-22-82

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

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National Park Service**

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Continuation sheet Maier House

Item number 9, Biblio. Refs.

Page 1

Biographical Cyclopeda of Vanderburgh County, Indiana. Evansville: Kellar Printing and Publishing Company, 1910.

Elliott, Joseph P. A History of Evansville and Vanderburgh County. Evansville: Kellar Printing Company, 1897.

History of Vanderburgh County, Indiana. Madison, Wisconsin: Brant and Fuller, 1889.

Inglehart, John. Account of Vanderburgh County. Dayton, Ohio: Dayton Historical Publishing Co., 1923.

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Continuation sheet Maier House

Item number 10, Boundary Desc. Page 2

Beginning at the intersection of Gum and Southeast Sixth Street, proceed 60 feet along the west right-of-way of Southeast Sixth Street to South Sixth Street; then 81 feet south along the west right-of-way, then 112 feet west to the alleyway, then 108 feet north to Gum Street, then 92 feet east along the south right-of-way of Gum Street to the starting point.